UNITED
NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1998/4
4 November 1997

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Fifteenth session,
Geneva, 29 June-10 July 1998)

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Placarding of mixed loads of dangerous goods

Transmitted by the Expert from Australia

PROPOSAL

1 This proposal is to include in the United Nations Model Regulations a requirement for placarding of transport units that contain different classes of dangerous goods.

DISCUSSIONS

2 When dangerous goods are transported by land, it is common that a variety of dangerous goods are transported in a single transport unit (TU). The placarding requirements for such loads may be achieved in two ways:

(1) Placard the TU with dangerous goods diamonds which clearly indicate each type of dangerous goods on board; or

(2) Use a generic mixed class diamond to warn emergency services and other road users of a potential hazard involving dangerous goods.

3. This paper does not address the threshold quantity below which placarding is not required. This matter should be addressed, like all the other placarding requirements in Chapter 5.3, by National Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

4. It is recommended that a new section 5.3.1.1.5 be inserted as follows:

"5.3.1.1.5 transport units carrying dangerous goods of more than one class or hazard division shall be placarded with either or both of the following:

i) mixed class labels; or
ii) class labels for each class of dangerous goods in the container and any subsidiary risk label that is applicable to the dangerous goods in the container except where the risk is already indicated by a class label."

5. It is further recommended that a new label be incorporated into Section 5.2.2.2.2.1 Specimen Primary Risk Labels, after class 9 as follows:

Mixed Class Label

Orange and
black stripes